

Aug. 10, 2015 Reg. Mtg. Call to Order @ 7:34

All Trustees Present. Staff: Me, John.

1. EPA - Gold King.

Mr. Gardner - Welcome Citizens & listeners. Spoke of 1978 Lake Emma breakthrough. Grateful no one was harmed @ this accident.

IMT to mitigate area, downstream, toxic waste, functional responsibility & multi-jurisdictional planning. (4 GOALS)

Incident Commander - Jim Donovan

Sheriff Conrad Operations Director

Gardner - Planner

Betsy Joyce - Public Health

Willy Tooke - County Rep

Mayor Tooke - City Rep.

Anthony Edwards - P.I.O.

- Jim Donovan lines out the goals. To keep residents of Silverton/San Juan Cty. safe.

- Anthony Edwards - Press answers, Comms between EPA and town/County ??? email.

Mayor - Introduces Martin Hessmark - EPA.

MH - Hayes Griswald, Deb McKear, Shawn McGrath. EPA Has broadened our effort not only in SJ County but now NM, UT, CO. together. Still committed @ Red & Bonita, Gold King, Animas, San Juan River, Lake Powell.

Water in river is starting to return to pre-event conditions.

How do we consider how to re-open river to all uses?

Command Center w/ 30+ EPA & 24 contract employees in Durango Region 6 & Farmington. have similar command centers. Data Accumulation & Risk Screening Levels; being built

Recreational, Agricultural, Contact, Drinking, Domestic Wells  
w/ Shallow Aquifers Huge Communication Issue

Pleased to hear the town has an IMT which can plug  
into EPA's IMT. Reimbursement for response costs.

Standard Form 95 to petition for compensation for  
damages. #1 Priority - How, Where, Why reopen all  
uses along river to Lake Powell & down through NM.

Deposits along banks are the danger - when sediments  
are disturbed...

CPW - upon notification placed sentinel fish @ 3 locations  
around Durango & 1 in an unaffected place. Only  
one mortality & not an acute event for fish. MSI  
studied invertebrates & if before & after. No significant  
mortality rate w/ bugs thus far.

Leading edge of mine discharge is no longer discernable.  
Releasing water from Navajo to dilute.

Water is likely now in Lake Powell.

EPA-Deb - Sampling Crews were already on hand &  
sampling began right after the incident happened.

Martin H. - We are posting time sequences of samples  
in real time.

Deb - Plume was moving @ 4 mph up here in Silverton.  
CDC-confirmed (ATSDR) incidental exposure would  
have been so fleeting - no long term effects. Acidic  
nature = 3.5 to 4.

MM? = Comment: website should have a FAQ sheet.

? is between CO & NM - people want to help. What  
can they do?? Martin - We are fast approaching

Knowing what to do but we are not there yet.

It is less of a sludge movement problem & more of a sediment problem.

DZ- Prior to shit hitting fan... what work was being done & what was intent?

Martin - Plugs in Am. Tunnel, building plug @ Red & Bonita. Wanted to see what the effect of the plug is. (Listen to narration -) Blew out ~~un~~<sup>un</sup> consolidated material which blew plug. Treatment ponds were overwhelmed.

④ Actually a little more than 3 mil gallons. A significant portion of solids of mine dump went down w/ the water down Cement Creek. EPA (Hayes) - About 200 gals. p/min (GPM) as of 3pm today. Before incident it was between 700pm & 2000pm. Ph 3.3, 3.2 treating w/ caustic soda, lime, 4 treatment ponds have been constructed. The Ph is raised to about 5.5 after treating before hitting Cement Creek.

KS - Sediment Loading in River? What will stir it up? Rain, Run-off? Martin H - high precipitation, run-off, all of above... Suspended sediment causes havoc in filtration / irrigation / Water Systems.

KS - Have you tested water between Silverton & Durango?

Martin H - NO..

Sheriff - Recap of last night in Durango. Anything new?

Martin H - No new data... unless posted on website.

We are working w/ agencies to ensure that decisions to lift bans.

Sheriff - RFP for your EPA emergency response?

When it happened there was no comms to the town to let the citizens know that a 2 ft wall of water & debris was headed towards town.

Public Comm. Doug Bishop - What have you learned from this event? Is the plugging of portals putting a bandaid on it?

Martin H. - We are conducting a hot wash...

Plugs: We have choices to make/try. Stainless Steel pipes & valves behind plugs which monitor pressure, which can be turned off. Bishop - Every happened before?

Martin - Possibly in Leadville.

Susan Collins - Contaminated sediment & EPA techniques for mitigation? Martin - EPA doesn't have experience in this type of river. Research & new technology is needed here.

Kevin Baldwin - Animas River Stakeholders mtgs. attendee. You knew there was water in the mtn.

It sounds like you were un-prepared to stop a sudden rush of water. No heavy equip, pre-cast concrete, etc.

Melody Skinner - Thank you EPA for trying to help us understand the dangers around us & you only release exact science & you are moving forward.

Bill Dodge - Thank you EPA also. Prevention. EPA commitment to partner to prevent anything like this from ever happening again.

Martin H. - Citizens have more knowledge of these mines than us. We want to explore your knowledge.

Tim Hewitt - If EPA caused the problem, why is EPA doing the investigation? What are the chances of

of a non-governmental agency doing the investigation?  
Martin - High Deb - i.e. MSI studies.

Steve Farin - EPA has been a good partner w/ Animas River Stakeholders group.

Deann Callegas - We as Community are building a Comprehensive Comm. Plan to show visitors that Silverton is safe. Now that it is a national story - what is EPA doing to help us communicate that we are safe?

LG - Cell tower going up? When?

Martin - Contacted Verizon - they know it is a priority.

5 MIN BREAK

*motion* → Proclamation of State of Local Emergency.

→ MM motions to continue LG <sup>2nd</sup> State of Emergency open ended.  
Roll Call - All yays

~~Appts~~ Public Comment: Connie Bishop - On Record I live on Cement St. and signage has greatly improved things this yr. Doug Bishop I agree.  
~~Appts~~ Lois Mackenzie. Clinic 1yr. Anniversary in April. 300 patient visits. Asking for a \$1500 blood coagulating machine.

*motion* → KS motions to donate \$2000 per what the budget allows  
→ MM <sup>2nd</sup>. Roll Call. All Yays.

Lois - While budgeting. - think about what else you can give us...

MM motions LG to approve Consent Agenda

Roll Call: Allyays T. Safranster refused.

Admin Report - Gone last week - Got a complete report on Kendall.

Dept. Reports - Caselle

Gardner - Thank You Fire Dept.

Trustee Reports: Mayor - COG mtg. & DOLA mtg. in Durango. A lot of anger over EPA.

Retreat:

Sept. 20 Malcolm's anniversary.

~~Has~~ Old Bus. - EPA proposal.

Board Consensus - research & discussion & public comment.

New Business -

Fireworks: Listen to Discussion.

Adjourn. 9:33 p.m.